

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A ~~minus-strand RNA Sendai virus carrying a foreign human~~ CFTR gene, wherein the wild type of the foreign gene comprises in its sense strand sequence a part of an antigenome E-sequence of the minus-strand RNA virus, and wherein the foreign human CFTR gene has been altered at the part of the E sequence to lower the identity with the E sequence at the 5'-AGA<sub>5-6</sub>C-3' sequence comprised in the sense strand of the wild-type of the gene such that the amino acid sequence encoded by the 5'-AGA<sub>5-6</sub>C-3' sequence of the wild-type gene is maintained.

2-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A DNA encoding the genome RNA of the ~~minus-strand RNA Sendai virus of claim 1 or 2, or a complementary strand thereof.~~

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A method for producing a ~~minus-strand RNA Sendai virus~~ carrying a human CFTR gene which is altered to lower mutation frequency, wherein the gene sequence before alteration comprises a 5'-AGA<sub>5-6</sub>C-3' sequence, and wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- (a) altering the 5'-AGA<sub>5-6</sub>C-3' sequence comprised in the sense strand of the wild-type of the human CFTR gene such that the amino acid sequence encoded by the 5'-AGA<sub>5-6</sub>C-3' sequence of the wild-type gene is maintained;
- (b) preparing a DNA encoding the genome of the ~~minus-strand RNA Sendai virus~~ into which the altered gene has been inserted, or a complementary strand thereof; and
- (c) reconstituting the ~~minus-strand RNA Sendai virus~~ by transcribing the DNA.

11-14. (Canceled)